

LANTERN

AUTUMN
1973

BORDERLINE SCIENCE INVESTIGATION GROUP

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this our latest, and we think, greatly improved magazine. Readers of the first two issues will probably notice two main differences between them and this. The first and main difference being the printing. We have had this edition printed commercially to make for a far better magazine with regards to the lay-out and legibility, unfortunately because of this we have had to cut the number of pages down to make the printing costs come within our limited budget. However, should this improved edition prove to be a success, the next one will be longer.

It would at this point be fitting to enlighten our new readers as to what the BORDERLINE SCIENCE INVESTIGATION GROUP is and does.

The organisation was formed in February 1971 by a small group of people interested in what can be called the 'borderline sciences' ie; Unidentified Flying Objects, E.S.P., Folklore, Witchcraft and other occult subjects. In particular concentrating on the local East Anglian aspects of these subjects. In this edition we have tried to introduce a more 'localised' theme to the contents and hope to maintain it in future editions. When the Group was formed its' aims were laid down as follows:

1. To discover as much unusual and unexplained phenomena as possible in the region of East Anglia.
2. To investigate in as scientific and unbiased a manner as possible all phenomena.
3. To document any findings and report them to the necessary bodies in a scientific and unbiased manner.

It seems, upon reflection over the past two and a half years; safe to say, that despite all the ups and downs and changes in the Organisation, that we are still achieving these aims.

Any subject is approached in two ways, although not always distinct from each other. Firstly, as much background information as possible is collected on the subject; and then secondly, field-work is under-taken in the form of ghost-watches, interviewing witnesses, and the visiting of locations etc. Finally, when all the data has been collected and collated, a report is compiled and kept in our files. these reports are never considered to be complete and in many cases additional data is added if and when it comes to light.

This basically then is the BSIG. If you are interested in our activities and would like to join us, or perhaps just supply information which will be of interest. please turn to page 7 for more details.

If, after reading this magazine, you have any comments on it, or the contents, please write to the address on page 7 and we will try to publish your letter in our Winter issue.

EDITORS: D.Fletcher and I.Bunn. GRAPHICS: L.Bunn.



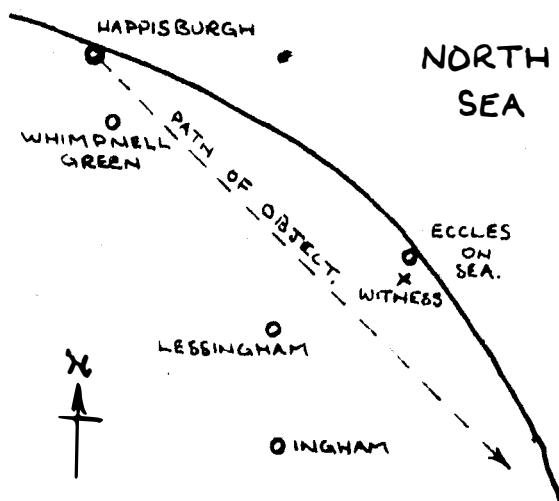
UFO over HAPPISBURGH

During the last few months East Anglian UFO reports have been rather few and far between. However there has been one report of an unusual object over Happisburgh on the Norfolk coast.

The object was seen by Police Constable B.Nichols of the North Walsham Police. Whilst on duty in a mini-van on 25th July, 1972, he was near Eccles-on-Sea at about 9.15pm and in his report he described what happened, as follows:-

"I saw a light rising over the village of Happisburgh. I formed the opinion that a flare had been fired out at sea and radioed to force control the necessary information. I got out of the mini-van and watched the light. I was waiting for the flare to burst which it did not do, instead it began to travel in my direction. As it got nearer I could see the light flickering all the time and I could see an outline to the object. There was no colour to the object and it appeared to be transparent, the only similar object that I could call to mind at that time was a polythene bag, the flickering light in the corner looked like a candle burning, with about the same strength of light too."

"There was no wind that evening and everywhere was quiet and as the object passed me a little to the west I could hear no sound although it appeared very near at that time. The object did not appear to alter its' height and it eventually disappeared from sight over in the general direction of Stalham."I would estimate its' speed in excess of 100mph. I also noticed that the shape didn't change as the object passed by."



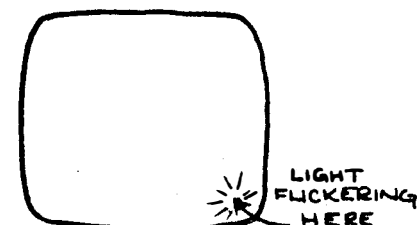
As far as can be ascertained there were no aircraft in the area at the time of the sighting, and PC Nichols is adamant that this was not an aircraft light that he saw, he is familiar with watching the lights of aircraft flying from the various air-bases in the district.

The Happisburgh Coastguard were also contacted, they did not know anything about the report. So it seems quite certain that this was not a flare of any kind launched by them, or by a boat at sea. PC Nichols sticks to his story that the object looked exactly like a polythene bag with a candle in one corner. Although this description

seems almost laughable, we must accept the fact that this is exactly what the object must have looked like to the witness.

Unfortunately no other witnesses have so far been discovered, but it seem pretty certain that there must have been others, for as can be seen from the map, the object covered quite a long distance and passed close to at least three villages, not including Happisburgh itself. As it was fairly early in the evening there must have been a considerable number of people abroad at that time.

Being a police officer and a trained observer, we must accept Constable Nichol's statement as being as close to the fact as is possible without other witsnesse. Leaving us to ponder what object in the sky could possibly look like a polythene bag with a candle in it.



THE OBJECT (AS DRAWN BY WITNESS)

FOOTNOTE: Since the writing of this article, it has been suggested that the object could have been a home-made hot air balloon. Made from a polythene bag with a small spirit burner in the bottom to provide the lift. This seems quite feasible except for the fact that the witness said the object was travelling quite fast and he also said that there was no wind that night. A hot air balloon depends on the wind to move horizontally..... (More UFO reports on page four)

The anonymous booklet 'Parish of Lowestoft St Margaret' says that passages ran from crypt-like cellars under the High Street, near the Town Hall. On December 27th, 1947 an article appeared in the Lowestoft Journal which says that in clearing the ground for the erection of the Anchor Hotel in 1907 another tunnel was found, and this was thought to lead to St. Margaret's church. The article finished with a ghost story. During the last war a young sailor was sleeping on a bench in the lounge of the Anchor Hotel. One night he felt a sudden rush of icy wind around the house, and looking up he saw a man in a robe and cowl standing in the doorway. He leapt up, but the figure had disappeared.

This is a fairly typical example of the stories that are to be found all over the country, of secret tunnels running from old houses and in many cases these tunnels are associated with ghosts. One of the most bizarre I have heard, but without a ghost this time, is the passage which is supposed to run from the college of St. Mark, a range of old buildings now used as a home for retired clergy, in Audley End village to Saffron Walden church, despite the fact that they are miles apart, and the college stands deep in a valley and the church on top of a hill!

In many cases tunnels are supposed to run from old pubs to the parish church, and quite a number of these pubs are haunted. In Jack Hallam's recent book 'The Haunted Inns of England,' the author gives no less than Thirteen examples, but most of his stories are very scrappy and it is a pity that he did not examine fewer examples at more length.

The Standard Inn at Rye has a record of poltergeist activity, throwing clothes about, disarranging bedding and furniture and the like. An investigator who called there in 1947 was shown the bricked-up entrance to an alleged secret passage used by smugglers. Another old pub said to have such a passage is the Tiger on Tower Hill in London, although there is no record of hauntings. The legend goes that when Queen Elizabeth I, as she was to be, was imprisoned in the Tower she used to go to the inn along the passage to eat her meals. Why food was not supplied by her gaolers is not recorded. Another version is that she went to play with the landlord's cat. It must have been an exceptionally engaging feline!

The Smugglers' Haunt restaurant at Hayling Island claims to have a tunnel running down to the sea. This, as the name implies, was supposed to have been used by smugglers.

The Royal Pavilion at Brighton is said to have a passage which runs from the building proper to what is now the concert hall, but which used to be stables. The ghost of King George IV has been seen walking along this, so the story runs. Another ghost of the Pavilion is that of Martha Gunn, the celebrated bathing woman, who appears in the kitchen. St. Mary's Barracks at Chatham is haunted by the ghost of a sailor in the uniform of Nelson's time and hobbling on a crutch. This apparition was seen by a sentry as recently as 1946. The building is supposed to be honey-combed with secret passages.

The most famous of all haunted houses, Borley Rectory, has its' legend of a tunnel. In his book 'The End of Borley Rectory,' the late Harry Price gives the name of a man who claims to have entered this. To those who will say that the haunting at Borley has been discredited, I would reply that in an article I wrote in 1968 I showed that if Price faked them he must have started doing so while he was still in his cradle.

A legend of buried treasure is associated with a tunnel which runs from the Market Cross at Gresham, Norfolk to Beeston Abbey; a golden calf is said to be hidden in it.

If these passages exist, who built them? The first contenders are the monks of pre-reformation days, who apparently liked walking about under the ground rather than on top of it like other people. A variant to this story is that passages were built connecting monasteries and convents, so that the occupants could visit each other for immoral purposes. This has all the ear-marks of Reformation propaganda, and need not be taken too seriously. There probably were dissolute monks and nuns just as there are dissolute people in other classes of the community, but in those days ecclesiastical discipline had a heavy hand, and these people would not have crazy enough to advertise their existence by undertaking elaborate building works even if they had the power to do so.

SECRET

U N N E L S

The second favourites are smugglers, but again this theory will not wash. Although smuggling gangs were well organised and often contrived ingenious hiding places for their goods, they had neither man-power nor the resources for such work. Most of their labour was, in fact, recruited on a sort of ad-hoc basis and paid off at the end of each run.

.. The great snag about all these stories is that such passages, if they existed, could only have become secret only when their existence had become forgotten by lapse of time, and they were subsequently re-discovered in whole or part. To make them a large number of men must have been employed, or a small number for a long time, and somebody would have talked, somebody would have smelt a rat, or something would have come out somehow. The disposal of the excavated earth would also have presented a problem. It would have necessitated the use of a large number of labourers, or a small number for a long time, assisted in all probability by carts or pack-horses. Is it possible that nobody would have noticed anything?

As far as my own opinion goes, I have never heard a passage story which I have found entirely convincing. This is not to say that they do not exist, but that they have never been proved conclusively to do so. It is a fascinating sideline on which the Group might possibly carry out some investigations at a future time.

U.F.O. REPORT

LOCAL
U.F.O. REPORTS
IN
BRIEF

JANUARY 26th 1973. TIME: 9.30pm. LOCATION: OLD COSTESSEY, NORWICH.
WITNESS: MR.N.W.K.BROOKS.

LIGHT BLUE POINT OF LIGHT WHICH DESCENDED TO EARTH ABOUT ONE MILE FROM WITNESS, WHO ESTIMATED ITS SPEED TO BE IN THE REGION OF 60MPH. THE OBJECT WAS COMPLETELY SILENT.

DECEMBER 7TH 1972. TIME: 5.53pm. LOCATION: CARLTON ROAD, LOWESTOFT.
WITNESS: MR.M.W.BURGESS.

A WHITE, STAR-LIKE OBJECT EMITTING SPARKS. IT WAS SEEN FOR A VERY BRIEF TIME-2 TO 3 SECONDS- AT A VERY HIGH ELEVATION. THE OBJECT DISAPPEARED AS IT SIMPLY 'WENT OUT.'

AUGUST 8TH 1972. TIME: 7.37pm. LOCATION: NORTH LOWESTOFT.
WITNESS: MR.L.CALVER.

3 BRIGHT YELLOW/WHITE LIGHTS, TRAVELLING IN A SOUTH-WESTERLY DIRECTION. IN A 'V' FORMATION. NO SOUND WAS HEARD AND THE LIGHTS DISAPPEARED INTO A CLOUD. VISIBLE FOR APPROX 10 SECONDS.

DECEMBER 11TH 1972. TIME: 7.05pm. LOCATION: ELM TREE ROAD, LOWESTOFT.
WITNESS: MR.W.READ.

A VERY BRIGHT CIRCULAR WHITE LIGHT, TRAVELLING IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION. IT WAS VISIBLE FOR APPROX 30 SECONDS AND THEN 'JUST DISAPPEARED' IN A CLOUDLESS SKY.

MAY 15th 1973. TIME: 11.15pm. LOCATION: CENTRAL LOWESTOFT.
WITNESS: MR.I.A.W.BUNN.

VERY BRIGHT RED BALL OF LIGHT OBSERVED DRIFTING ACROSS SKY. IT FLUCTUATED SLIGHTLY IN BRIGHTNESS AND THEN DISAPPEARED. (NB. THIS WAS LATER IDENTIFIED AS A FLARE FIRED FROM THE HELICOPTER PAD.)

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OTHER REPORTS:

JANUARY 5th 1973; 2 small circular objects observed near Gt.Yarmouth at an elevation of 45 degrees.

FEBRUARY 12th 1973; Helicopter over Gt.Yarmouth approached by an object with 2 flashing white lights.

NIGHT OF APRIL 7th/8th 1973; Two sightings made during skywatch. FIRST: 2 star-like objects performing complicated manouvres impossible for any conventional aircraft. SECOND: Star-like object flashing at 2cps.

JULY 14th 1973; 5 star-like objects observed on an identical course at 10 minute intervals. One, observed through a telescope, appeared to be a luminous disc.

(Details of these last 5 sightings were supplied by the GT.YARMOUTH UFO RESEARCH GROUP.)

THE RANT SCORE GHOST

Lowestoft, for its size, has a considerable number of ghosts. Many of these have their haunts in the area of the High Street, from Mariners Score to Old Nelson Street. This is hardly surprising when one realises that this is the oldest part of the town. Rant Score lies in the middle of this region, and is one of the few scores alleged to be haunted. It is also notable because it has quite a history of paranormal activity.

The origin of the haunting lies lost in the mists of time, among the bustle and clamour of the beach village, which has disappeared for all time beneath the industrial developments of modern Lowestoft. However, the ghost, unlike its original haunt, seems remarkably resilient, surviving both the bulldozer and the 24 hour hustle of modern factory life. The first mentions of the scores being haunted are somewhat vague, with regard to date and place. In the 17th and 18th centuries there was a legend that a score, probably either Rant or Wildes Score, was haunted by 'Old Shuck' or to be more exact, a phantom 'Dawg.'

Recently a more 'tangible' series of events took place. The beach village was, about 50 years ago, the centre of Lowestoft's herring industry, and along the scores were rows of fish houses used for storing and curing fish. In one of these buildings in Rant Score, fish boxes, which were neatly stacked at night, were found in disarray in the morning. No explanation could be found although rats were suspected. This spot soon gained a reputation amongst the fishermen who were afraid to pass the spot alone at night.

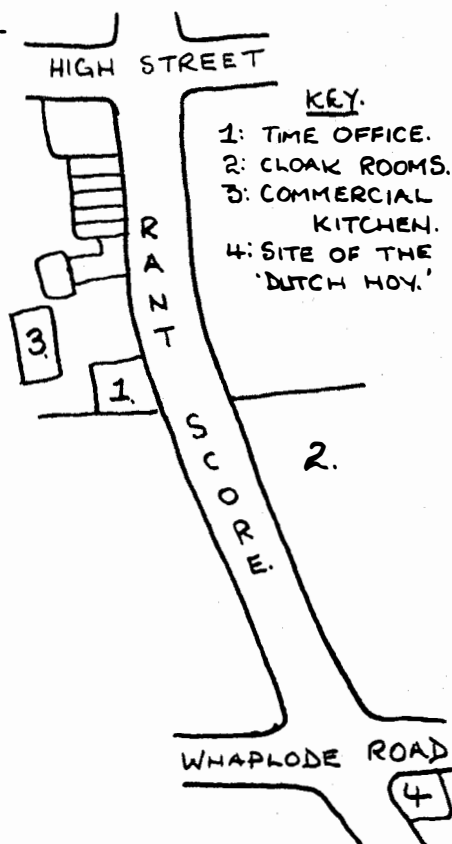
About 70 years ago, a public house, the Dutch Hoy, situated in the Rant Score area, also became the scene of psychic activity. The building was owned by Youngman and Preston Brewers and stood on the corner of Rant Score East and Whaplode Road. (see map). The activity took place upstairs. The figure of a woman was often seen in one of the bedrooms at night, who when approached disappeared into a wardrobe.

Paranormal activity was later reported in a workshop which once stood in the score. The pattern was similar to the events in the fish house. Tools in the building were displaced during the night. Suspecting children to be the cause, a thorough inspection of the premises was made to check security, but no way in which the children could get into the building could be found.

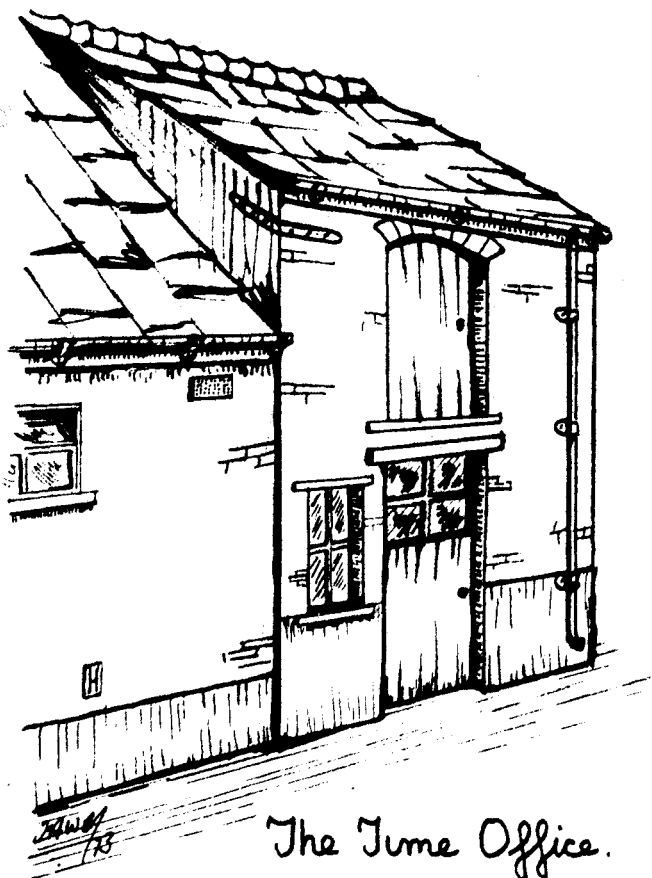
For a time the haunting ceased, new industry had come to Lowestoft. The fish houses were replaced with factories. The intense, emotion laden atmosphere of the fishing community vanished, and with it, it seemed, went the ghost. Then suddenly in the late 1950's and early 1960's it re-appeared. Birds Eye Foods Ltd had just moved to Lowestoft and were acquiring new premises, one of these being a small house half-way down Rant Score, which was used as a time office. Men on night duty were puzzled by the sound of footsteps approaching the door but no-one coming in. When, out of curiosity, they opened the door they were staggered to find there was nobody there. This continued for a time, then one night the footsteps were heard as usual, only this time the office door opened, seemingly of its own accord, the room temperature fell sharply, the other door opened and the footsteps were heard receding.

After this, activity again subsided and the score was quiet for about ten years, then, in July 1970 the ghost was seen, possibly for the first time. Two fitters were working in the commercial kitchen. (see map), repairing an oven, when they were astonished to see the figure of a man glide across the room and through a wall. They left the room in a shaken state and refused to return again that evening. The following night workmates took a ouija board into the kitchen, in a vain attempt to contact the spirit.

Also in the 1969-1970 period the ghost appeared again, this time in some cloak-rooms near the old time office. A man was alone in the cloakroom when he felt some-



Rant Score Area.



thing touch him on the shoulder, on turning round he saw a bluish glowing ball disappear through a wall. He fled to find his other workmates and was seen to be white and very shaken. Although ridiculed he maintained his story and his appearance bore evidence to what he had seen.

That, as far as I know, is the history of the Rant Score Ghost. It raises many questions; are they all the same ghost? If they are, then why was it seen in so many different places etc? But perhaps the most profound question is, assuming that all the sightings were of the same ghost: Is a ghost able to change its appearance?

These are questions for which there are no real answers. We can only guess, and wait for the next occurrence, be it next year or next decade.....



Early in 1968 I was offered a position as under-manager of a small country hotel, situated in the sleepy market town of Bungay in Suffolk. The hotel was called 'Ye Olde Three Tuns' and was erected during the 17th century. Apparently the original was completely destroyed by fire.

I accepted the job enthusiastically and was soon settled in. However, on the third or fourth night as I was in the process of retiring to bed, a sudden slam halted my movements. Two small leaded glass windows inserted in the bedroom wall opened out into the corridor. Previously one of the windows was opened, now both were closed tight. It was a fairly warm night and there was certainly no wind worth mentioning. So I concluded that obviously a practical joker had remained on the premises, somehow avoiding detection in my methodical locking-up ritual. For a second time I checked doors, windows and empty bedrooms, but the result was negative. I returned to the window which had closed so mysteriously. Tentatively, I opened the window and pushed hard, slamming it with the same force to produce the equalness of noise. Surprisingly it rebounded open again, I tried again and again with the same result each time. Only by pushing hard and holding it closed could I repeat the original manoeuvre. I did not understand, I knew nothing of the occult or psychic phenomena, so I turned off the radio and climbed into bed. I feel that I should mention that, at that time, I was alone in the hotel, actually I was for most of my duration at The Three Tuns. Although a residential hotel, extensive renovations had been decided and commencement was due at anytime.

A repeat performance of the window closing sensation occurred the following night, so the third night. Thinking I would terminate these paranormal activities, I closed the window; in the morning upon waking, I noticed the window was open.

I consulted the proprietor at our next meeting about the bizarre happenings within his premises. Hesitatingly he informed me that a much troubled spirit haunted the building, probably unaware that death of the physical body had occurred many years ago. He further informed me that contact was established by the alphabet and wine glass seance. Consequently I attended the next seance and the information extracted was very

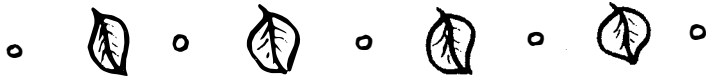
THE HAUNTING OF THE THREE TUNS (a personal account)

interesting. Apparently the spirit was formally an 18 year old youth named Rex Bacon or Bacon. Around 1682, after discovering that his wife had been unfaithful, he slew her lover and then committed suicide by hanging himself from the beam above the top stair on the landing of the Three Tuns. Rex Bacon insisted that his father had vicar of the parish of Mettingham, a tiny village with an extremely old castle, adjacent to Bungay. The church registers subsequently revealed that from 1649 to 1731, a John Bacon had been vicar of Mettingham and a Rev. Thomas Bacon from 1520 to 1539.

The power of the seance increased as the same people attended. The closing of the window each night was an act of protection so the spirit declared. Although I never personally saw anything, two of the participants claimed to have seen a nebulous form otherwise a ghost, but I felt a presence very often. I knew that I was not alone. I was sure that only goodness radiated from the etheric resident.

After a month or so I had grown accustomed to these strange happenings and nightly I would call out "Goodnight Rex," needless to say there was never a reply. I remember on one occasion finding three shirts neatly folded on a chair, previously they had been deposited in an untidy heap on the bed ready for the launderette. I thanked the chamber maid for this un-necessary chore but she informed me that my room was locked all day. Entry had been impossible.

My term of employment was curtailed when I accepted an attractive offer with more responsibility and of course a higher salary. My biggest regret was losing my invisible protector. Approximately one year, Canon J.D. Pearce-Higgins, Vice Provost of Southwark Cathedral, performed a Requiem Communion Service, invited by the harrassed proprietor to settle all unexplained phenomena. The Canon decided against a service of exorcism as he considered the spirit not evil. He felt a Requiem Mass to pray for release and enlightenment would be far more appropriate. The doors of the hotel were sealed by a cross of Holy Water and Rex was laid to rest. As far as I know nothing has been seen or heard of him since



SEA MONSTERS

Some how, I'm sure you'll agree, the sea off the Suffolk and Norfolk coast seems less likely to be the home of Sea monster than say Loch Ness. But surprisingly, strange creatures have been seen from time to time off these familiar holiday beaches. Many years ago, a boy was almost drowned while swimming off Ness Point, when the dog he was minding for a friend, attacked him, forcing him further and further from shore. Luckily he was saved by fishermen in a passing smack, who saw, not the friendly dog the boy had been swimming with, but a huge snarling brute, whose head, for an instant, seemed to take on human appearance, that of its master. For months after, there was an unusually high incidence of drowned children in that area, several of the bodies having wounds to the face and neck, seemingly made by a large animal. The dog admits owner? They were never seen again.

For the purists, a more classical sea monster, described as being large and torpedo shaped and moving very fast was seen by two Southwold fishermen in the late 1930's. Just a legend or mistaken identity? Maybe, but worth remembering the next time you find yourself on a lonely stretch of beach.....



INTERESTED IN

B.S.I.G.

AND ITS ACTIVITIES

THEN WRITE TO...

MR. I. BUNN

3 DUNWICH WAY

LOWESTOFT



for further details



A12 GHOST

The ghosts of a man and a little girl were seen on the A12 near Blythburgh Common last December. A long distance lorry driver had to brake sharply to avoid hitting what he described as a man wearing knee breeches and a 'Dick Turpin' hat, leading a large black horse; holding the man's arm was a little girl wearing a long dress and a poke bonnet. The Shaken driver, thinking that he had hit them, got out of his lorry, to find to his astonishment that the road was empty.

So far, no explanation for this apparition has been found.

LOCAL CURIOSITIES

DID YOU KNOW THAT at Stone farm, Blaxhall, Suffolk, there is a large stone known locally as the Blaxhall Stone, which is constantly increasing in size? It is claimed that it was the size of a small loaf when it was first noticed 100 years ago. It now weighs about 5 tons.....

+ + + + +

FLINTS with a natural hole through them and which are still collected by children today as 'Lucky Stones,' once played an important part in Suffolk folk-magic. The stones were called 'Hag-stones' and were suspended around the neck of a horse or hung in its stable to prevent witches from taking the horse out for a ride during the night.....

+ + + + +

DURING THE 1st WORLD WAR an object was seen over Aldeburgh, Suffolk. It was described as a round platform with a hand-rail round it. On the platform were 8 to 12 men all wearing blue uniforms and little round hats. The object flew in from over the marshes and disappeared behind some houses.....

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INSIDE B.S.I.G. THE PSYCHICAL RESEARCH SECTION

The Psychical Research Section has evolved from an unknown amateur group into a now well known, professional looking, body of investigators, linked with the British Society for Psychical Research.

Our work is seldom glamorous, the only reward coming from further knowledge. Often days of painstaking and tiring preliminary research has to be undertaken before any form of result can be obtained.

Firstly, it is necessary to have something abnormal to investigate. Cases come to our attention either by personal reports, publications, or via the modern media of radio and television. Once discovered, background research has to be undertaken as well as finding witnesses to substantiate the phenomena. Ideally the story is kept out of the Press, at least until our investigations are complete.

The next step in the preparation of the ghost-watch is to decide upon a plan of campaign and to decide the type of equipment that we wish to take. Because nobody can be absolutely positive about the anatomy of a ghost, the devices we use have to be geared to fit reported happenings, which in most cases assume their own characteristics. In general we use Draught Detectors, Vibration Detectors and Magnetic Anomaly Detectors, Light Sensitive Cells, Automatic Cameras, Thermostatic Switches, Thermometers and Tape Recorders, all of which are connected to, and monitored on, a central control unit. Future equipment that we are working on, such as Static Imprint Fields and Variable Vibration Equalisers, could close the blatant gap between the supernatural and reality.

Once we reach the alleged haunted location all possible physical phenomena, such as loosely hung doors or sloping floors, are plotted on diagrams together with the positions of all the equipment. All the preliminaries being complete the watch is effected; All feelings and activities during the watch are recorded on personal data sheets. After these usually tiring sessions, there remains the painstaking task of gathering, analysing and collating all possible information and moulding it into an illustrated factual report for filing or publication.

At this point in time, man is at his highest technological peak, yet he knows relatively little about the world of Psychical Science, but I am convinced that we are unbelievably close to a startling solution which lays only experiments away.

M. Marshall.

WANTED: YOUR OWN PERSONAL STRANGE EXPERIENCES.....

Have you ever had a strange experience for which you have no explanation? If so, we The BORDERLINE SCIENCE INVESTIGATION GROUP, would like to hear about it. Please write to;



The Editors (Lantern),
c/o 3 Dunwich Way, Lowestoft.



NEWS ROUND-UP



ALL NIGHT VIGIL AT THE OLD SCOLE INN, NORFOLK.

Members of the Psychical Research Section spent the night of Friday July 30th in the Old Scole Inn at the invitation of the Diss Mercury. Their Purpose was to investigate reports of a ghostly woman who has recently been appearing to people in a particular bed room.

CHOKING SENSATION.

Some of the people who have seen this apparition describe a white figure which appears in the room from a corner in which there was once an ancient staircase. The figure approaches them and stands by the bed, whereupon some claim to have felt a choking sensation as if being strangled.

NOTHING SEEN.

Despite the long and tiring all night vigil, Mr. Martin Marshall, who led the investigation said that; "Nothing had been seen or heard which could have been attributed to the ghost," "It is hoped, he added, "that should anything unexplained occur again, the management will allow us to return for a further watch."

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....NEWS....NEWS....NEWS...

3RD GHOST WATCH AT OXFAM REGIONAL HQ, NORWICH....

During June, another party of investigators from the P.R. Section, returned to the Oxfam Regional H.Q. in Magdelene St. Norwich, for a third and final watch for the ghost of SARA, who is said to have been murdered there many years ago when the building was a public house called the Red Lion.

PREVIOUS WATCHES.

Of the two previous watches, the first was definitely the more fruitful, as far Psychical Phenomena are concerned. During that watch, all the lights in the front part of the premises being used as a shop, went out for no apparent reason. It was later discovered that they had been switched off, but at the

time when they went off, everybody was accounted for and nobody was near the switches. After this first watch was over and the tape recordings made on it were being played back, an unexplainable female voice was heard on one saying what sounds like "Who's there?" Although this is quite distinct on the tape, nothing like it was heard at the time the recording was made. As well as these two occurrences, all the watchers commented on the 'atmosphere' which left everybody feeling un-settled.

Because of these strange events, it was decided to hold the second watch. This one proved to be the complete opposite of the first. Nothing untoward what-so-ever was recorded, and the watch was abandoned in the early hours of the morning. After this it was thought that all psychical phenomena had ceased.

EXORCISM.

This view soon received a nasty shock, when, a few months later, activity increased again and two mediums were called in to contact the spirit and to exorcise it. This they subsequently did and once more the ghost was quiet.

LAST LOOK.

After reading about the exorcism, the PR Section decided to hold this final watch to see if it had made any difference to the building. This they did and once again they drew a complete blank. Not only was there no activity from the ghost, but all the watchers commented on how the 'atmosphere' of the building seemed somehow different, friendlier, than on the previous two watches.

It seems as if Sara has finally gone.

....NEWS....NEWS....NEWS....



TELEPATHY EXPERIMENT RESULTS.

Between May 1st and June 30th, certain members of the BSIG took part in what was described as a long-range telepathy experiment. Six members in all took part.

ZENER CARDS.

The experiment was conducted every night when 3 members took turns in transmitting one Zener Card chosen at random each night. At the pre-arranged time, the remaining participants had to write down their impression of what particular card it was.

Zener cards were transmitted for 6 consecutive nights and on the 7th a common object was the subject. This was repeated all through the experiment. The transmitters were in Norwich, Lowestoft and Surrey.

COMPLETELY NORMAL.

After the experiment was over, a thorough statistical analysis of the results obtained was undertaken. The conclusions from this analysis were simply that, if any member did have tendencies towards being telepathic, it did not show up in the results. Every participant in the experiment got a result which was completely average and could have been arrived at by chance.....

....NEWS....NEWS....NEWS....



As remarked by the owner of the Royal Hotel, Lowestoft, when asked about an alleged haunting there:

"The only ghost you will find here is the ghost of past business....."

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COMMENT

I feel that I must write, if somewhat belatedly, about the article in LANTERN No. ONE, entitled GHOSTS WE MIGHT HAVE KNOWN. My reason for writing is to dispute some of the statements made in this article, which concerned the BSIG Ghost-watches at Lowestoft Town Hall. I would hasten to add that this is not intended in any way to be a personal attack on the writer of the article, but only to put on record some points which have been overlooked in his article and which, by their omission, tend to give an incorrect view of the findings at the Town Hall.

In all fairness, I should point out that the writer of the article did attend all 3 of the ghost-watches there while I attended only one. I am not disputing the facts recorded by the various watchers on the 3 occasions, but only the interpretation of these facts after the watches were over.

I will take in turn each point from the article with which I am in dispute:

1. The sounds like footsteps, in the top corridor, which are mentioned in the article have, to the best of my knowledge, been explained by the caretaker. They were caused by a fault in the mechanism of the clock in the tower over the top corridor, producing 'low thudding noises.' This was explained to me on the second watch by Mr. B. Hulme, and as I recall, we were instructed to ignore these noises if they were heard. Which indeed they were, by myself and at least one other watcher. They were also heard on the third watch and are in fact recorded in the official report as being the noises of the clock mechanism.

2. In the article the appearance of a light, which was seen for 2 or 3 seconds coming from under the Mayor's Parlour door, is mentioned. It is stated that this could not possibly have been reflected light from outside. This is just a suggestion on my part, but couldn't it have been the Direct light from a car's headlights as it came up the short stretch of road leading from the John Wilde Club and Mariners Score? In which case the light would have shone directly into the Mayor's Parlour window for a second or two before the vehicle turned into the High Street.

3. The last point from the article that I wish to dispute is the so-called 'Draught Cycle,' which was, according to the article:

"The circulation of a cold draught at the same time on each watch, this starts outside the Mayor's Parlour and was independently reported to move down the stairs, along the bottom corridor and back to the Mayor's Parlour. This cycle starts at 11.48pm and appeared to return 7 or 8 minutes later. This cycle is pronounced on the third watch but documentary evidence from the other watches confirms that a good part of the cycle was in existence all the time on the first and second watches....."

Unfortunately, I do not have the reports from the first two watches to examine, but by studying the report of the third watch very carefully, I cannot find any proof whatever of the existence of any sort of 'draught cycle.' There were indeed draughts coming from under the Mayor's Parlour door from time to time during the watch, but there is no evidence or reports of draughts on the stairs during the watch and the only draughts recorded on the ground floor during the whole of the third watch, WERE TRAVELLING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION TO THE DRAUGHT CYCLE! Returning to the first floor by way of the back stairs, as the draught is supposed to do, only one draught was in fact recorded travelling in the right direction to agree with the 'cycle, but this was found to be coming from under a door in the corridor and not down the corridor. After the source of this draught was discovered, the detector was moved, after which no other draughts were recorded, but in the opposite direction to the cycle. No other draughts were recorded on the first floor for the rest of the watch.

On the basis of these findings I feel I must respectfully refute the existence of any Draught Cycle in any form. Should anyone wish to study my claims in greater depth I shall be only too pleased to let them have a copy.

I.A.W. BUNN.



IN OUR WINTER ISSUE.....
THE TWO Witches
OF LOWESTOFT

* PLUS ARTICLES, FEATURES ETC. *
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